IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAR 1 8 2002

Application of: Betty WU et al

Application No.: 10/014,549

Filed: December 14, 2001

METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR

RELEASING INTRACELLULAR MATERIAL FROM CELLS WITHIN MICROFLUIDIC SAMPLES OF

FLUIDS

For:

Group Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: To be assigned

Attorney Docket No.: 10255-028-999

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Please consider and enter the following amendment into the file of the aboveidentified application prior to its examination.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 5, page 1 to read as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/953,921, filed September 18, 2001, and claims priority of provisional application No. 60/307,638 filed July 26, 2001. This application is also a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/819,105, filed March 28, 2001. Each of the above-mentioned applications are incorporated herein by reference.

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